

REMARKS

Information Disclosure Statement

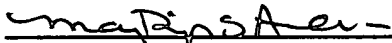
Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's signature on the Information Disclosure Statement submitted by Applicant on November 3, 1999, and marked as received by the Patent Office on November 5, 1999. Applicant notes that a single reference, reference AL (WO 99/18193), was not acknowledged by the Examiner on the Form PTO-1449 submitted by Applicant. Applicant respectfully requests clarification from the Examiner regarding this omission. If the omission was unintentional, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner provide a copy of the Form PTO-1449 that includes the Examiner's initialing of reference AL.

CONCLUSION

Applicant believes that this application remains in condition for allowance. A notice to this effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes, after this amendment, that the application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the Applicant's representative at the telephone number listed below.

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicant hereby requests any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 23/2825.

Respectfully submitted,
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